

Message Text

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FOR: T-AMBASSADOR WILKOWSKI; OES-OSWALD GANLEY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECE, TGEN
SUBJECT: ECE: SENIOR SCIENCE ADVISORS: SPECIAL MEETING
ON PREPARATIONS FOR UN S&T CONFERENCE: DEC 6-8,
1977

1. SUMMARY: THREE-DAY MEETING SETTLED ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR
ECE REGIONAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN BUCHAREST, JUNE 26-30
1978. ARRANGEMENTS, WHICH SATISFY US OBJECTIVES, WERE
AGREED UPON THROUGH EFFECTIVE FUNCTIONING OF WESTERN
CAUCUS. WALKOUT OF UN PERSONNEL ON DECEMBER 7 PREVENTED
NORMAL CONDUCT OF SENIOR ADVISORS MEETING, FREEING TIME FOR
CAUCUS TO FUNCTION. AS RESULT WESTERN CAUCUS MET ENTIRE
DAY, CANCELLING WORKING GROUP MEETINGS THAT HAD BEEN
SCHEDULED IN AFTERNOON OF DEC 7. SEC GEN DE COSTA SAT
THROUGH ENTIRE SESSIONS, LAYING OUT PURPOSE AND PROGRESS OF
UN CONFERENCE, WHICH WAS USEFUL BACKGROUND FOR SENIOR
ADVISORS MEETING. END SUMMARY.

2. PRINCIPAL DISCUSSION OF SENIOR ADVISORS MEETING WAS ON
(A) INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARATION OF THE ECE REGIONAL PAPER
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FOR THE UN CONFERENCE AND (B) SELECTION OF FIVE SUBJECT
AREAS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONFERENCE PREP COM.

3. SENIOR ADVISORS AGREED ON AN OUTLINE FOR THE REGIONAL
PAPER, WHERE PRINCIPAL CHAPTER DESIGNATIONS FOLLOW CLOSELY
THOSE PROPOSED BY WESTERN CAUCUS. REGIONAL PAPER WILL BE
WRITTEN BY THE SECRETARIAT FOR DISTRIBUTION NO LATER THAN

MAY 15. BUCHAREST MEETING WILL REVIEW AND REVISE DRAFT. FINAL APPROVAL OF PAPER WILL BE BY SENIOR ADVISOR AT OCT 1978 MEETING. THE ONLY CONTENTIOUS ISSUE ON THE OUTLINE OF THE REGIONAL PAPER CONCERNED THE TITLE, AS THE WESTERN CAUCUS (PRINCIPALLY THE US) WANTED A SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND EASTERN EUROPEANS DID NOT. A COMPROMISE WAS REACHED BY PLACING A DEFINITION OF THE TITLE IN THE BODY OF THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE REPORT, DEFINING THE TITLE BY REFERENCE TO ECOSOC RES 2028 AND 2123. IN ADDITION, US INTRODUCED INTO REPORT OF THIS MEETING A REGRET FOR THE OMISSION, WHICH OTHER WESTERN CAUCUS MEMBERS JOINED.

4. BASIS FOR CONSENSUS ON FIVE SUBJECT AREAS BECAME EVIDENT IN EARLY DISCUSSION OF THE MEETING, AND WAS CONFIRMED BY TALLY TAKEN BY THE SECRETARIAT. AFTER CAUCUS DISCUSSIONS AGREEMENT WAS REACHED WITH THE EAST EUROPEANS TO RECOMMEND FOLLOWING SUBJECT AREAS: (1) ENERGY, (2) NATURAL RESOURCES, (3) FOOD, (4) HEALTH, AND (5) ENVIRONMENT. DEFINITIONS OF SUBJECT AREAS, INsofar AS POSSIBLE, WERE ADOPTED FROM ECLA AND ECA REPORTS THAT WERE AVAILABLE. MINOR DIFFERENCE AROSE ON NUMBER (5), AS WESTERN CAUCUS PREFERRED RECOMMENDING ONLY FOUR SUBJECT AREAS, AND INCLUDING ENVIRONMENT AS A SUB-HEAD OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY. THIS WAS COMPROMISED BY ADDING ENVIRONMENT AS UNDEFINED FIFTH SUBJECT AREA.

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5. US REPRESENTATIVE SUMMARIZED PREPARATIONS IN US, FOCUSsing PARTICULARLY ON APPOINTMENTS OF PRINCIPAL US REPRESENTATIVES, AMBASSADOR WILKOWSKI AND HESBURG. HE ALSO DESCRIBED THE WORK OF THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL AND THE HOPE THAT THE ELABORATE PREPARATIONS WOULD HAVE LIFE BEYOND THE CONFERENCE ITSELF. OTHER DELEGATIONS EXPRESSED SIMILAR VIEWS OF EXPECTATIONS BEYOND THE CONFERENCE. SOME OF DE COSTA'S EXPLANATIONS WERE DISTURBING TO SENIOR SCIENTISTS, PARTICULARLY HIS "EVOLUTIONARY" CONCEPT OF NATIONAL PAPERS, WHICH SEEMS TO MAKE WRITING PROCESS ENDLESS. MOST WESTERN REPS INDICATED THEY WILL BE PARTICIPANTS AT OECD WORKSHOP NEXT SPRING. VANDEN HEUVEL

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